

Bluffton Police Department



NEWS RELEASE

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TEACHER ARRESTED

This morning Lester Eduardo Lara, a Spanish teacher at H.E. McCracken Middle School turned himself in to the Bluffton Police Department and was charged with Simple Assault and Battery (3rd degree). The charges stem from an incident with a fourteen (14) year old ninth grade student yesterday.

The allegations are that during class instruction time Mr. Lara came up to the student was not in his correct seat or paying attention to the lesson and attempted to take the school's iPad from him. The student pulled away from Mr. Lara and asked "what the f**k are you doing?". Mr. Lara then slapped the student on the back with a leather pouch/sheath-like souvenir that he had in his hand and had been using during his instruction. Witnesses report 3 to 5 slaps occurred. The student then pushed Mr. Lara and ran to the front office to call his parents.

The School Resource Officer who investigated the matter was able to observe light red marks on the student's back consistent with the reported incident.

Mr. Lara appeared in bond court this morning and was given an O.R. bond.